

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

R. HERRMANN ET AL.

CASE NO.: BB1367 US CNT

APPLICATION NO.: UNKNOWN

GROUP ART UNIT: UNKNOWN

FILED: HEREWITH

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR: SCORPION TOXINS

#3/a  
on  
7/23/02PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTCommissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the captioned application as follows and consider the following remarks.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:****Please replace the following paragraphs:****Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3:**

This application is a continuation application of U.S. Application No. 09/599,416, filed June 22, 2000, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/140,227, filed June 22, 1999, whose contents are hereby incorporated by reference.

**Paragraph beginning at page 3, line 26:**

In a third embodiment, this invention concerns an isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence of at least 30 (preferably at least 40, most preferably at least 60) contiguous nucleotides derived from a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, and 19 and the complement of such nucleotide sequences.

**Paragraph beginning at page 4, line 11:**

In an eighth embodiment, the invention concerns a method of obtaining a nucleic acid fragment encoding a substantial portion of a scorpion K-channel agonist polypeptide, comprising the steps of: synthesizing an oligonucleotide primer comprising a nucleotide sequence of at least 30 (preferably at least 40, most preferably at least 60) contiguous nucleotides derived from a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, and 19, and the complement of such nucleotide sequences; and amplifying a nucleic acid fragment (preferably a cDNA inserted in a cloning vector) using the oligonucleotide primer. The amplified nucleic acid fragment preferably will encode a substantial portion of a scorpion K-channel agonist amino acid sequence.